## Message Text

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**ACTION EA-10** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

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E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR, KS, KN

SUBJECT: NORTH-SOUTH RED CROSS TALKS RESUMED

REF: (A) SEOUL 5274 (B) SEOUL 5148

- 1. CHONG CHU-NYON, SPOKESMAN FOR THE KOREAN NATIONAL RED CROSS (KNRC) ANNOUNCED THAT THE 11TH WORKING-LEVEL MEETING OF THE NORTH-SOUTH RED CROSS WAS HELD JULY 21 AT PANMUNJOM.
- 2. CHONG TOLD EMBOFF THAT THERE WAS NO SIGNIFICANT NEW DEVELOPMENT AT THE MEETING. ACCORDING TO CHONG, KNRC URGED ITS NORTH KOREAN COUNTERPART TO STOP SLANDERINGS, WITHDRAW PRECONDITIONS FOR THE PLENARY MEETINGS AND SINCERELY DISCUSS MUTUALLY AGREED AGENDA ITEMS OF THE PLENARY SESSION. KNRC FURTHER URGED NORTH TO AGREE TO HOLD THE EIGHTH PLENARY SESSION UNCONDITIONALLY IN SEOUL AS AGREED BY BOTH SIDES. CHONG SAID THE NORTH PROPOSED THAT EIGHTH PLENARY MEETING BE HELD IN PYONGYANG SEPTEMBER 30. THE TWO SIDES AGREED TO HOLD THE 12TH WORKING-LEVEL MEETING AUGUST 22 AT PANMUNJOM.

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3. SENIOR ROK REP ON ROK/DPRK RED CROSS TALKS YI BUMSUK TOLD

DCM JULY 21 THAT IN ISSUING CALL FOR SEPT 30 PLENARY SESSION DPRK HAD STRESSED THAT IT DID NOT BELIEVE ATMOSPHERE IN SEOUL APPROPRIATE FOR MEETING DESPITE FACT THAT IN ROTATIONAL PATTERN SEOUL SHOULD BE NEXT VENUE FOR PLENARY SESSION. DPRK ALSO STRESSED MEETING TO BE CONDITIONAL ON ELIMINATING ALL OF KCIA REPS FROM ROK TEAM.

4. YI COMMENTED THAT DPRK OBVIOUSLY INTENDS TO USE APPARENT WILLINGNESS TO HOLD EARLY PLENARY SESSION AS PART OF ITS CURRENT CAMPAIGN OF REASONABLENESS WITH EYE ON FORTHCOMING LIMA NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE AND UNGA SESSION. HE SAID ROKG WOULD PROBABLY HAVE TO BE RESPONSIVE IN TURN AND COULD ALWAYS AGREE TO PANMUNJOM (BUT NOT PYONGYANG) AS SUBSTITUTE FOR SEOUL AS VENUE. YI THOUGHT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO ELIMINATE KCIA REPS FROM ROK TEAM AND BEMOANED FACT THAT ROKG HAD GOTTEN ITSELF INTO POSITION WHICH PERMITS THE DPRK TO MAKE THIS AN ISSUE.

5. YI SAID HE THOUGHT ROK MIGHT WISH TO CONSULT EMBASSY SOME TIME NEXT WEEK REGARDING IMPLICATIONS OF THIS DPRK MOVE AND ROK RESPONSE FOR ROK POSITIONS AT LIMA AND NEW YORK.

6. YI ALSO SAID THERE IS A MOVE AFOOT WITHIN ROKG TO REPLACE LARGELY INEFFECTUAL KIM YONG-U AS PRESIDENT OF KOREAN RED CROSS SOCIETY WITH FORMER JUSTICE MINISTER AND AMBASSADOR TO JAPAN YI HO. SNEIDER

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